N-A-E-B ANNUAL MEETING -- October 26, 1947 -- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

OFFICIAL MINUTES

NAEB Business Meeting

Minutes: Meeting Sunday, October 26, 1947. Hotel Sheraton, Chicago, Illinois

The meeting was called to order by President Harold A. Engel. John Henderson, WBAA, served as recording secretary for the meeting.

Election of officers: The report of the nominating committee (Milford Jensen, Chairman, H. B. McCarty and Jim Miles) was submitted. The following nominations were offered:

President	Richard B. Hull, WOI	
Vice President	John Dunn, WNAD	
Treasurer	W. I. Griffith, WOI	
Executive Committee (6 members)		
Region I	Seymour Siegal	WNYC
Region II	Graydon Ausmus	WUOA
Region III	Frank E. Schooley	WILL
Region IV	Carl Menzer	WSUI
Region V	Ralph Steetle	WLSO-FM
Region VI	William Sener	KUSC-FM

In considering the nominations it was voted to hold the elections over until the Monday morning meeting, in order that additional nominations might be submitted if members desired to do this.

The matter of appearances at the clear-channel hearings by NAEB representatives was discussed informally. A separate meeting was scheduled for Monday by representatives of the stations directly affected.... Statement to be issued in name of NAEB at clear-channel hearings read and approved. The meeting was adjourned.

--- ---

Minutes: Meeting Monday, October 27, 1947 Chicago

Meeting called to order by President Harold A. Engel. John Henderson serving as recording secretary.

I. Election of Officers: (carried over from Sunday meeting)

The slate of nominees submitted by the nominating committee was again presented, with the addition of the name of Irving Merrill as Executive Committeeman for Region IV.

Novik moved that a vote be taken on all offices, except Region IV where a contest existed. Motion passed.

Unanimous vote for all these nominees.
Vote on Region IV Executive Committeeman:
Menzer 7, Merrill 4. Menzer elected.

Newly elected President Hull took to chair.

II. Constitutional Amendment: Discussion on amendment previously submitted by letter. Voted change as follows:

The following changes are now proposed for your consideration:

(1) ARTICLE I - Section A (Revision in)

The word "ACTIVE" shall be inserted as indicated in two places.

MEMBERSHIPS

(A) Any university, college, or other educational or public service agency of recognized standing engaged in educational, non-commercial broadcasting over a radio station owned and/or operated by it or any such agency holding a construction permit for such a station, may be elected to active membership in this organization by approval of the Executive Committee, and a two-thirds affirmative vote of all active members of the Association. Each active member institution or agency shall be entitled to one vote.

(2) ARTICLE II - Section B (new)

"A". First paragraph shall be designated with the letter "A".
"B". The dues of associate members shall be $5.00 per year.

Hanna (WHCU) raised the question about the word "non-commercial" in the eligibility statement. Wanted to be sure that his station qualified, though it sold some time to support its activity. Concensus of opinion was that wording should not be changed, but that each case should be considered on its own merits. The real objective of the station (profit or education) should be the determining factor.

It was moved by Schooley (WILL) that the Executive Committee study the matter and make a formal recommendation as to what shall constitute the basis of membership qualification.

III. NAEB Clear-Channel hearing representation. Moved, seconded and passed that Marcus Cohn (1420 New York Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C.) be authorized to speak in behalf of NAEB at the hearings.

President Hull asked to be excused so he might catch a train to Washington. He appointed Ex-President Engel to preside at the meeting.

IV. Membership Business

A membership review indicated the following:

Dec. 1, 1946	
Active	23
Associate	8
Total	31

Oct. 25, 1947	In	Applications	
Active	33	4	37
Associate	18	10	28
	51	14	Total 65

This indicates more than 100% increase in one year.

Moody Bible Institute. This institutionapplied for active membership in NAEB. After publication of the application in the NEWS-LETTER in routine form several members questioned the eligibility of the applicant for membership. It was revealed that the Moody Institute is not accredited by the American Association of Theological Schools. Discussion centered on the objectives of the applicant in using radio and on his standing in the field. The conclusion was that the applicant did not qualify for membership under the constitution of NAEB.

Moved, seconded and passed that the application be not accepted and that the president write the applicant explaining the matter of accreditation as a basis of eligibility. This is not to be construed as passing judgment on the quality or character of the applicant's radio activity - but rather as adherence to basic standards to be adhered to.

IBS -- Intercollegiate Broadcasting System.

Members of IBS have asked about their eligibility for NAEB membership. Russell Potter, director of the IBS Board and a member of NAEB, explained the scope of IBS activity. He expressed the belief that these stations were not generally eligible for active membership: (1) They operate commercially, (2) They are not "educational" in purpose basically. He asked for cooperation between IBS and NAEB, with the possibility of admitting certain such stations as might wish to apply for associate membership.

Moved (by Coleman), seconded, and passed that a committee be appointed to handle NAEB-IBS relationships.

Committee appointed by the chair:
Russell Potter, Chm., Harry Skornia, John Crabbe

V. Negotiations for National Office Support

Novik reported that he and Potter had talked with foundation representatives about the possibilities of obtaining funds for setting up a Washington office. Interest not high in such projects. Little hope held for those contacted. Other contacts suggested (Kellogg, Kresge, Racham). Possibility of adequate financing through member-station contributions suggested. Discussion followed.

Moved, seconded and passed that the committee continue to investigate possibilities and report at the next regular meeting.

VI. NAEB Station Survey

A revised form for surveying the activities of NAEB members was submitted by Engel for consideration. Changes desired to be reported to him for consideration and inclusion. Survey to be made as soon as practically possible.

(Copy of form appended hereto)

VII. Radio Training Program for German Personnel

An outgrowth of a voluntary meeting in August (Skornia, Hull, Novik and Engel) was a plan for the training in the U.S. by NAEB of selected German nationals who would then go back to their own land to develop educational broadcasting activities over the German stations. The plan was explained by Engel and a letter from the army endorsing the plan was read. The matter was discussed.

Moved (by Schooley), seconded and passed that NAEB officially endorse the program and that efforts be made to put it into operation. Engel to follow-up on negotiations on the matter.
(Copy of plan appended hereto)

VIII. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Griffith submitted a detailed report which was read in his absence. (appended hereto) A balance of $1,372.83 is in the treasury.

Moved, seconded and carried that the treasurer's report be accepted as read.

IX. Constitution Committee's Report

Coleman, speaking for the committee, read proposed changes in the constitution. These were discussed and changes recommended.

Moved, seconded and passed that the committee revise its proposals in accordance with the decisions made and submit them for inclusion in the News-Letter.

X. 1948 Meetings

Indiana extended an invitation for NAEB to hold its fall meeting at Bloomington.

Moved, seconded and carried that the Executive Committee take the matter under advisement and make a recommendation.

XI. News-Letter Editorship Remuneration

Moved, seconded and passed that $100.00 be paid Engel in appreciation of his efforts in getting out the News-Letter in 1946-1947.
(Over Engel's objections that the action was breaking precedent, because the Executive Secretary normally was so rewarded.)

XII. Moved, seconded and passed that the retiring officers be given a vote of thanks for their sevice throughout the past year.

Meeting adjourned 11:52 A.M. Monday, October 27, 1947

-----Recorded by John Henderson.

N-A-E-B ANNUAL MEETING -- October 26, 1947 -- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

SUMMARIES OF SPECIAL TALKS

I. Facilities, Budgets and Standards for the Educational Station...
Harry Skornia.

Mr. Skornia based his report on information received from 17 members stations. The detailed figures are not of great significance, except as they reveal general trends and tendencies. The impression gained, however, is that educational stations are comparing favorably with commercial outlets in the way of salaries and physical facilities.

The need is shown for a central clearing house which will have more complete information available to actual and potential educational broadcasters. Members would supply information which grows out of their own experience. This is an area for greater NAEB service.

FCC Services to Educational Broadcasting...Harry M. Plotkin, F.C.C.

Mr. Plotkin reported that the F.C.C. machinery was, by the nature of things, geared to the operations of commercial broadcasters; but that every effort was made to give educational broadcasters all possible assistance. He pointed out the opportunity available to potential educational broadcasters through the FM channels now reserved for non-commercial use.

The clear-channel matter, as it affects educational broadcasters, is now under consideration. NAEB stations are being heard, Plotkin said. Ample times will be allowed for all to be heard.

On the matter of the high-band vs. low-band FM problem, Mr. Plotkin was of the opinion that no changes should be made now lest the public's confidence in FM be destroyed. Tampering now would be a misfortune at a time when positive action is needed.

Educational broadcasters can, by united action, assist the FCC in bringing to its attention problems and recommended solutions. The commission is anxious to act in the public interest, but needs evidence to support its stand. NAEB representation, as a central office, in Washington would be highly desirable. Through such a central agency a better impression could be assured at hearings and through interested groups.

U.S. Office of Education Radio Service...Dr. Franklin Dunham

The Office of Education has extended its services and work in the radio field. Its transcription and script libraries are available. Some may be used for broadcasting by special arrangement. Dunham solicited the aid of broadcasters in enlarging the collection.

The Office of Education has several projects under way, including; the comparative values of audio-visual media in learning, evaluation of radio education work, standards of training in radio, registry of research studies in radio, equipment survey, and further studies on FM's place in education.

Dunham offered the facilities of the Office of Education to NAEB in extending pertinent information. He explained that the Office has contacts with people in educational ports and can get a hearing when needed. The Office, he said, can render a liaison service for educational broadcasters.

The Demonstrated Potentialities of FM for Large-Area Coverage...
C. M. Jansky, Jr.

Mr. Jansky illustrated his talk with lantern slides, and referred his audience to copies of a printed brochure with the same title as his talk. This embodied maps and diagrams. It is available upon request to Mr. Jansky, National Press Building, Washington 4, D.C.

FM, Mr. Jansky predicted, will change radio in all departments because it removes the physical limitations formerly imposed by the scarcity of wavelengths. Educators, thus have a virgin field in which to work - just as they had when AM broadcasting was in its infancy. With the reserved channels set aside for education by the FCC there is every opportunity to start using radio.

The competition in radio, said Mr. Jansky, is not between programs- but rather between facilities. FM is "Dynamite" in the radio structure of this country.

Pointing to FM projects under way he said "The University of Wisconsin isn't gambling when going into FM. It is a sure thing." He urged educators elsewhere to use the now available FM channels before the commercial pressure to get them gets too strong. In FM, Jansky said, educators can start without the handicaps which plague commercial broadcasters.

Speaking of the high-fidelity characteristic of FM, Mr. Jansky said that it was a by-product of the invention. What Major Armstrong, the inventor, really was after was the elimination of noise and interference from radio reception.

In response to a query about control over programs Mr. Jansky said, "It isn't a question of whether we shall have program censorship or not -- but rather a question of who shall do it -- the government, or the man fortunate enough to hold a broadcasting stations license."

NAEB Service...Richard B. Hull

Instead of pointing to specific services which the NAEB could render, as might be expected from the topic, Mr. Hull referred to the over-all aspects of the impact of educational stations on the radio situation in this country.

"The good emanating from the use of these new media of communications is to be measured by the intelligence of the people who are handling them." The philosophy of service, Hull contended, will determine what the quality of the radio fare will be.

There is now a tremendous opportunity to serve a large audience. While studies show that two-thirds of the listeners apparently are satisfied with their radio listening one-third was not satisfied. This, Hull contended, is a healthy minority and should not be neglected. In this group, he said, are the influential people in every community - the leaders and the thinkers. Influencing this group will have a profound result.

In conclusion Hull made a plea for unity behind NAEB which would result in greater good to all members.

Remarks by Dr. Lee de Forest, "The Father of American Radio", as guest-of-honor at the NAEB banquet.

Dr. de Forest said that he was heartened by the fact that NAEB was moving forward toward a goal which had long been in his mind for radio broadcasting - the use of the medium for a serious purpose as well as for sheer pleasure.

Reminiscing on the early days when he set up his experimental telephonic transmitter he recalled the advent of "sponsored" programs, and his resistance to over-commercializing because it threatened the service which he knew should be rendered.

Banquet Speaker...Commissioner Clifford J. Durr, F.C.C.

Commissioner Durr paid high tribute to Dr. de Forest for his contribution to the science of radio, and to Professor Lighty, at the University of Wisconsin, for his vision in the social significance of what broadcasting could do for the people of this country if intelligently handled.

Commissioner Durr indicated that the U.S. is in a state of nerves - and that radio, the one medium which is in the best position to give assurance, is not rising to the occasion. Leadership is needed, and it is up to the universities of this country to <u>educate</u> men - not just <u>train</u> them technically.

Commissioner Durr warned the educators that they have serious competition - and quoted from the NAM proposed code to show that educators must truly serve as guardians of the freedom in this country if it is to be preserved in respect to broadcasting.

"I am disappointed at the progress made so far by educational broadcasters (in respect to FM station development), but I am not discouraged," said the Commissioner. Educators, he said, must understand that if they do not move forward that their efforts will be nullified - and others less well qualified will take over.

In conclusion Commissioner Durr urged educators to re-evaluate their jobs in respect to the over-all job to be done. He pleaded for more reality and better financing for the broadcasting activity. For contrast he pointed out that while about 4 million dollars is spent for the operations of educational broadcasting activities in this country some 4 billions are spent for the operations of the countries universities. This did not seem to be adequate when considered in terms of the numbers of persons being served.

In conclusion Mr. Durr pointed out that despite the provisions in law that the monopoly created by the scarcity of radio facilities has limited the freedom of expression as far as broadcasting is concerned. He emphasized the fact that scientific development is far ahead of the social scientists at the present time. We must hurry to catch up. "The atom bomb and human misery cannot exist side by side in the same world for very long."

Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records
at the Wisconsin Historical Society as part of
"Unlocking the Airwaves: Revitalizing an Early Public and Educational Radio Collection."

A collaboration among the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities,
University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Communication Arts,
and Wisconsin Historical Society.

Supported by a Humanities Collections and Reference Resources grant from
the National Endowment for the Humanities

MITH MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR TECHNOLOGY IN THE HUMANITIES

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE Humanities

Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication/collection do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.